
PLAYBOOK READS

PHOTO DU JOUR: Vice President Mike Pence pats a kangaroo during a visit to Taronga Zoo in Sydney, Australia on April 23. | Peter Parks/Pool/AP Photo

VIDEO DU JOUR -- TRUMP's message yesterday to the World Jewish Congress
<http://bit.ly/2p8Voda>

STEVE BANNON PROFILE - "A Hollywood Story: Did the movies really make Steve Bannon?" by Connie Bruck in The New Yorker: "These days, Bannon is a dishevelled presence in the Oval Office, but he cut a different figure in Beverly Hills, where he looked the part of a Hollywood executive-fast-talking, smartly dressed, aggressively fit, carrying himself with what one former colleague described as an 'alpha swagger.' ... He was passionate and knowledgeable about film, and boasted about his connections, his production credits, and his background in mergers and acquisitions at Goldman Sachs. He was a Republican, but not dogmatic, and he tried not to let his political beliefs get in the way of his work ... People in Hollywood [have been] bewildered by Bannon's story of himself as a major dealmaker. 'I never heard of him, prior to Trumpism,' the media mogul Barry Diller told me. 'And no one I know knew him in his so-called Hollywood period.'" <http://bit.ly/2ojsY2U>

JOB-CREATOR-IN-CHIEF -- "Trump Saved Carrier Jobs. These Workers Weren't as Lucky," by NYT's Nelson Schwartz in Huntington, Ind.: "During Mr. Trump's campaign, the fate of more than 2,000 Carrier jobs that the company wanted to move to Mexico from Indiana, including those in Huntington, were Exhibit A in his attacks on the free-trade policies of his predecessors, both Democratic and Republican. ... Thanks to public pressure from Mr. Trump and a generous package of tax breaks negotiated by Gov. Mike Pence, now the vice president, Carrier did agree to keep making some of its furnaces in Indianapolis, preserving roughly 800 of 1,400 jobs there. But the plant in Huntington operated by United Technologies Electronic Controls, or UTEC, was not part of that deal - nor would it be helped by the 'buy American' mandate for federal infrastructure projects that Mr. Trump promised in Wisconsin last week. And by early next year, the components used for furnaces still

assembled in Indianapolis will come instead from Monterrey, Mexico, where it takes a day to earn what workers here make in about an hour." <http://nyti.ms/2oXulmE>

2020 WATCH -- "Did I just witness the start of the 2020 presidential campaign in

NH?," by NH1's Paul Steinhauser in Salem, N.H.: "Martin O'Malley preached reforming the Democratic Party and taking 'our country back' at the first stop of his first visit to New Hampshire since the 2016 election. And while he says his trip to the first-in-the-nation presidential primary state was all about 2018 rather than 2020, O'Malley's address to a group of Democrats at a house party in Salem may be the beginnings of a stump speech in the next race for the White House."

<http://bit.ly/2oXzV8z>

-- **"Inside Democrats' 'American Idol'-Style Campaign School,"** by NBC News' Alex Seitz-Wald: "If an anti-Donald Trump wave is coming, House Democrats want to be ready to catch it. So they're sending hundreds of operatives to school in a massive training operation that they say is bigger and starting earlier than anything the party has attempted before. Over 1,300 aspiring campaign managers, field directors, and finance chiefs have so far enrolled in what the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee is calling 'DCCC-University.' ... [S]essions are scheduled in Chicago, Denver, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Minneapolis, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C., and Raleigh, North Carolina in coming weeks, as well as online, open to anyone who applies." <http://nbcnews.to/2pUPZck>

MICHAEL KRUSE in Politico Magazine, "How Trump Succeeds Without Succeeding: He has made a career of convincing people that his failures were the exact opposite. Can he pull it off again?": "More than a belief in the power of positive thinking or the casual audacity of a tireless salesman, Trump has perfected a narrative style in which he doesn't merely obscure reality-he tries to change it with pronouncements that act like blaring, garish roadside billboards. Unrelenting in telling his own story, he has defined himself as a success no matter what-by talking the loudest and the longest, and by insisting on having the first word and also the last. And it's worked. Again and again, throughout his adult life, Trump in essence has managed to succeed without actually succeeding." <http://politi.co/2pUpOQk>

THE GLOBAL POLITICO PODCAST -- REVENGE OF THE NEOCONS? In an exclusive for The Global POLITICO, Paul Wolfowitz, architect of the Iraq war, talks Trump, Iraq and his fears the country could descend into "chaotic violence" all over again, and the need for America to step back up in the melting down Middle East. An